

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 01944 161838Z

11

ACTION IO-13

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INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L DUBLIN 1944

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, EI

SUBJECT: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 220772; (B) STATE 220773

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DUBLIN 01944 161838Z

1. DCM AND POLITICAL OFFICER MADE REPRESENTATIONS PER REFTTEL (A) TO MFA POLITICAL DIRECTOR NOEL DORR AND COUNSELOR JEREMY CRAIG. THE LATTER IS IN CHARGE OF UN AFFAIRS AT MFA AND WILL BE A KEY MEMBER OF THE IRISH UNGA DELEGATION. THE FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REACTIONS.

2. KOREA - IRELAND WILL VOTE FOR, BUT NOT CO-SPONSOR, THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION, AND AGAINST THE PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. CRAIG OPINED THAT WE MIGHT RUN INTO PROCEDURAL DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE THE UNFRIENDLY RESOLUTION HAS PRECEDENCE ON THE AGENDA.

3. PUERTO-RICO - THE IRISH SUPPORT THE USG ALL THE WAY, BUT HAVE LITTLE INTEREST OR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ISSUES. DORR SAID HE CANNOT UNDERSTAND WHAT THE CUBANS HAVE TO GAIN IN THIS MATTER.

4. MIDDLE EAST AND ZIONISM/RACISM - DORR AND CRAIG SAID THAT THIS ALREADY COMPLICATED BUSINESS WAS LIKELY TO GET MORE COMPLICATED BY THE LEBANON AND RESULTANT INTRA-ARAB FEUDING. WHILE THE IRISH ARE ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED TO THE ZIONISM-RACISM FORMULA, CRAIG SAID THEY WOULD HAVE TO STUDY CAREFULLY THE CONTEXT OF ITS INCLUSION IN PERIPHERAL RESOLUTIONS. FOR INSTANCE, HE SAID, MER REFERRAL TO "PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS" WITHOUT SPECIFIC CITING OF ZIONISM RACISM WOULD NOT MEAN AN AUTOMATIC NEGATIVE VOTE BY THE GOI.

5. SOUTHERN AFRICA - DORR AND CRAIG AGREED THAT THIS ISSUE WOULD BE THE MAJOR ONE AT THIS UNGA. MUCH WOULD DEPEND UPON THE OUTCOME OF THE SECRETARY'S CURRENT EFFORTS. DORR ASKED IF WE HAD TAKEN A POSITION ON TRANSKEI YET AND WE REPLIED THAT WE HAD NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE. HE THEN SAID THAT THE EC NINE WERE ALL FIRMLY OPPOSED TO RECOGNITION. IN GENERAL, DORR SAID, HE BELIEVED THE WESTERN STATES WERE PLACING TOO MUCH FAITH IN THE CALMING EFFECTS OF A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA AND EVEN RHODESIA. EVENTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF WOULD BE INCREASINGLY ON THE MINDS, AND TONGUES, AT THE UNGA AND ELSEWHERE.

6. CYPRUS - DORR SAID FLATLY THE TURKS DO NOT HAVE THE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 DUBLIN 01944 161838Z

VOTES TO GET THIS DISCUSSION INTO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE. THE GOI, FOR ITS PART, WOULD CONSIDER ANY PRO-TURKISH VOTE TOO MUCH OF A "TILT" IN A PRESENTLY VERY DELICATELY BALANCED SITUATION. WE STRESSED THAT WE HAVE MADE NO COMMITMENTS TO THE TURKS. DORR SAID HE WAS NOT AWARE THAT IRELAND HAS BEEN ASKED TO PROVIDE THE NEXT COMMANDER FOR UNFICYP (WE HAVE HEARD THIS RUMOR), BUT IF IT PROVES TO BE TRUE THE IRISH MOST LIKELY WOULD BE PLEASED TO COMPLY.

7. UNRWA FINANCING - THE IRISH FOREIGN MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY FIGHTING WITH THE FINANCE MINISTRY TO INCREASE IRELAND'S CONTRIBUTION. THE GOI SUPPORTS UNRWA AND INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS "WHOLEHEARTEDLY."

8. INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE - THE IRISH WILL ABSTAIN ON ANY RESOLUTION AS THEY HAVE IN THE PAST.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS - CRAIG MENTIONED THAT SWEDEN IS FLOATING AN INITIATIVE ON POLITICAL PRISONERS, QUITE SIMILAR TO THE USG INITIATIVE IN LAST YEAR'S UNGA. ALTHOUGH IT IS TOO EARLY TO MAKE A DECISION, CRAIG SAID THAT THE GOI WOULD BE INCLINED TO SUPPORT SUCH AN INITIATIVE.

10. INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM - DORR SAID THAT THERE IS SOME SKEPTICISM IN THE EC ABOUT THE GERMAN INITIATIVE. IT IS SEEN BY SOME AS MOSTLY AN ELECTION TACTIC. FOR THE MOMENT THE GOI AND "SEVERAL OTHERS" ARE RESERVING JUDGMENT ON COSPONSORSHIP, NOT HAVING SEEN A FINAL TEXT.

11. DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE - THE IRISH ARE NOT ENTHUSED ABOUT A SPECIAL SESSION, AND CRAIG SAID THAT DESPITE COLOMBO IT IS NOT AT ALL A FAIT ACCOMPLI. HE SAID THAT HE BELIEVED CHINA WOULD BE OPPOSED. COMMENT: CRAIG HAS SOME VERY GOOD FRIENDS IN THE QUAI D'ORSAY, WITH WHOM HE MEETS FREQUENTLY AND WHO KEEP HIM INFORMED ABOUT CHINESE POLICY. HE SEEMED TO BE SPEAKING WITH SOME ASSUREDNESS ON THIS POINT.

12. UN BUDGET - THE GOI WILL SUPPORT THE USG ON THIS ISSUE. DORR REMARKED, INCIDENTALLY, THAT THE IRISH FIRST SECRETARY IN NEW YORK, BRYAN NASON, HAS BEEN TAPPED AS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 DUBLIN 01944 161838Z

NEXT CHAIRMAN OF THE BUDGET (FIFTH) COMMITTEE.

13. VIETNAM AND ANGOLA MEMBERSHIP - IF A "MODERATE" RESOLUTION IS PRESENTED IN THE UNGA THAT THE SC SHOULD ADMIT VIETNAM AND ANGOLA, IRELAND WOULD FEEL OBLIGED TO VOTE FOR IT. DORR SAID THAT THE EC NINE WERE UNANIMOUS IN FAVORING MEMBERSHIP FOR BOTH COUNTRIES ON THE PRINCIPAL OF UNIVERSALITY, BUT "UNDERSTOOD" THE SPECIFIC REASON WHY THE USG OBJECTED TO VIETNAM MEMBERSHIP. WE SAID WE DID NOT KNOW THE LATEST USG POSITION ON ANGOLA MEMBERSHIP.

14. CONSULTATION IN NEW YORK - CRAIG SAID THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO GO ON RECORD IN COMMENTING THAT, OVER THE YEARS, CONSULTATION WITH THE US DELEGATION IN NEW YORK HAS BEEN DIFFICULT AND FRUSTRATING. THE PROBLEM WAS

TWOFOLD, HE SAID:

A) THE SMALL IRISH DELEGATION COULD NEVER FIND ANYONE WHO COULD SPEAK AUTHORITATIVELY ON GIVEN ISSUES - THERE SEEMED TO BE NO "KEY" PERSONS AND US REPRESENTATIVES ON VARIOUS COMMITTEES, ETC., CHANGED SO RAPIDLY THAT A SMALL DELEGATION COULD NOT KEEP UP.

B) THE US DELEGATION ALWAYS SEEMED TO RECEIVE ITS INSTRUCTIONS VERY LATE, THOUGH DORR COMMENTED THAT CERTAINLY THIS WAS AN IRISH PROBLEM TOO, SINCE HE HAD TO PERSONALLY DECIDE ON ALL THE MYRIAD DAILY ITEMS HIMSELF IN ADDITION TO HIS OTHER DUTIES.
CURLEY

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